

THE ARLINGTON ADVOCATE

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Artist finds creativity in his darkness

Stead's work on display at ACA

By Brooke Leister
STAFF WRITER

When Arthur R. Stead was a teenager, he thought being a night owl and mood swings were normal. He also believed the thoughts that continually raced through his head were normal because he had never known any differently.

When the former U.S. Navy cook was diagnosed with manic depression, also known as bipolar disorder, last January, the mood swings, inability to sleep, overspending and tendency to jump into quick relationships began to make sense.

"It was a relief, but it was also scary," said the 1992 Lexington High School graduate of the diagnosis. "At the same time, it explained a lot about my life."

Last December, while Stead, 30, was hospitalized in Gardner, he picked up a pencil and out of boredom began sketching a vase filled with flowers.

"I had never been able to draw a

straight line before," he said.

While he was hospitalized two more times, both at McLean Hospital in Belmont, he continued to draw.

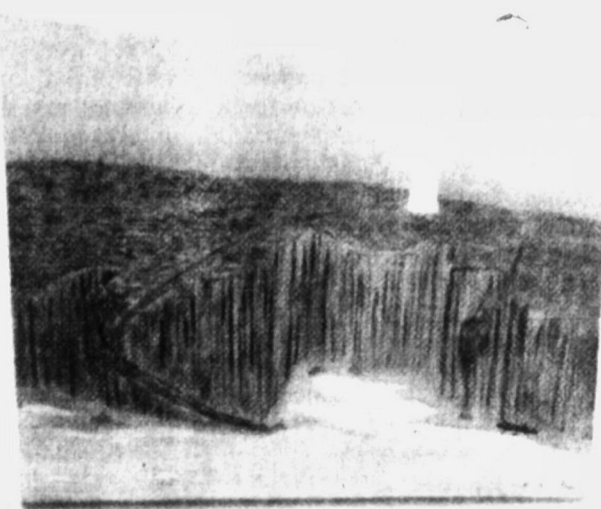
"My drawings became better and better. My cousin came to visit me one day and she said, 'You have natural talent,'" said Stead, adding she later gave him a set of oil paints in which to experiment.

Beginning tomorrow, about 20 of his landscape oil paintings will be on display at the Tufts Street Community Gallery at the Arlington Center for the Arts. Stead will host an artist's reception tomorrow night from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery.

He hopes the body of work, on display through Feb. 11, will help combat the stigma often associated with mental illness.

"I want them (the public) to see the positive side of mental illness — the creativity that comes from it, the ambition," he said. "About 99 percent of

Stead, Page 17



STAFF PHOTOS BY ANN RINGWOOD

Artist Arthur Stead is exhibiting his artwork in the Tufts Street Community Gallery at the Arlington Center for the Arts. Stead, who suffers from manic depression, hopes his artwork will help combat the stigma often associated with mental illness.



"Sunset Falls" is one of Stead's paintings on exhibit at the arts center until Feb. 11.

Board meets first super finalist

By Brooke Leister
STAFF WRITER

Superintendent finalist Richard Silverman said while Arlington High School is an exciting place to be, there are areas that could be improved to benefit both teachers and students.

Silverman, the former superintendent of Brookline Public Schools, spent Tuesday visiting with staff, administrators and students. His formal interview with the School Committee was held in the evening. The committee planned to interview the three other candidates last night, Thursday and next Monday. Members hope to narrow the field to one or two on Tuesday.

Before the interview began, School Committee Chairman Paul Schlichtman said, "Our task is not to determine who's good — they're all good; our task is to determine who is best for Arlington."

Each finalist is spending a full day in Arlington, including one-on-one meetings with central office staff, principals, teachers and community leaders. Each candidate also has the opportunity to spend four hours within AHS, where they can speak to whoever they like and investigate documents.

Schlichtman asked the first question Tuesday evening.

"Through your observations, what strengths would you build upon to make Arlington High School one of the best in the state?" he asked.

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Election season begins

By Roberto Scalese
STAFF WRITER

Arlington's political season is starting early. With a month left to pull nomination papers, there are already three contested races.

There's already indications of a wide open race for selectmen. Five candidates have pulled nomination papers for the two available seats, including incumbent Diane Mahon. Challengers Jason Tarkington, Paul Addorisio, David Barrett and Annie LaCourt have also thrown their hats into the ring.

Charles Lyons, the other incumbent, has not yet pulled papers for re-election. From Los Angeles on Wednesday, Lyons said he would have an announcement to make either way soon.

"I'll be making a decision in the next week or two," said Lyons.

The election is Mahon's second defense of the seat she picked up in 1999. Lyons has served in public office since 1972, when he landed a seat on the School Committee at age 18.

In the School Committee race, incumbent Martin Thrope has pulled papers for re-election. One other challenger, recent Arlington High School graduate Sean Garballey, has also received nomination papers. There are three seats up for election this year.

The two other incumbents, Joani LaMachia and Barbara Goodman, have

Election, Page 8

Remembering the top local stories of 2004

This is the second in a two-part series reviewing local stories in 2004.

July

• A Boston man was arraigned from his hospital bed after he repeatedly raped and beat a Memorial Way woman.

Andre White, 33, of Boston, was charged with rape, armed burglary, kidnapping, assault with the intent to murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, larceny of a motor vehicle and intimidating a witness.

According to police, White went to a former girlfriend's house around 1 a.m. and forced his way into the residence, grabbing her by the throat and choking her, according to police.

Armed with a large kitchen knife, White allegedly beat and raped his ex-girlfriend throughout the night.

• Arlington firefighters battled two houses fires within minutes of each other.

Firefighters extinguished a blaze on Oxford Street while containing it to the second-floor bathroom and adjoining bedroom. Damage was estimated at \$80,000. One firefighter suffered a hand laceration and was treated at the scene.

Meanwhile, Engine 3 contained a basement blaze on Gray Street, which caused \$3,000 worth of damage.

• A second case of Hepatitis A struck an Arlington restaurant.

The latest possible exposure occurred at Not Your Average Joe's on Massachusetts Avenue. A food server who worked at the restaurant was diagnosed with hepatitis A, a rare liver virus that causes severe flu-like symptoms in

patients.

The town held a clinic to administer immune globulin shots for patrons who ate at the restaurant.

Health Director Christine Connolly estimated about 300 people were there that day. The IG shot is an inoculation for hepatitis A. The virus generally incubates for two weeks after exposure.

The restaurant was allowed to re-open after employees were inoculated for hepatitis A.

• The Alliance for Animals shelter on Massachusetts Avenue found a home for its last cat, Sabrina.

The shelter, which was in Arlington since 1994 and at its Massachusetts Avenue location in Arlington Heights since 2000, closed its doors because of the economy and difficulties of operating two facilities (Afa also has a low-cost veterinary clinic in South Boston). Afa hoped to eventually find a building large enough to house both operations, said Afa President Donna Bishop.

Adoption Center Manager Joyce Porter Barringer estimated between 200 and 250 cats were adopted from the Arlington shelter annually. Around 50 percent of those felines were adopted by Arlingtonians, she said.

• In a year when he traveled the country representing the National League of Cities, Selectman Charles Lyons showed the nation's leaders some Arlington hospitality.

The NLC was in town for its summer meeting. The president hosts the event and Lyons, the first selectman elected NLC president in the group's 80-year history, had the honor this year. Usually,



STAFF PHOTO BY ANN RINGWOOD

Rev. Francis Menezes greets parishioners in front of St. Jerome Church after the parish's final Mass in September. Arlington lost two Catholic parishes in 2004.

the position is held by mayors and councilors of big cities.

Lyons, working on four hours sleep coupled with a busy travel schedule, strolled through the Town Hall Gardens during the cocktail hour, shaking hands, welcoming NLC members and sharing stories with old friends.

Town Hall was cleaned and polished for the event. Two 20-ton air conditioning units pumped cool air into the Town Hall auditorium and the fountains, which had been dormant for 28 years, were shooting water into the air.

Lyons invited NLC officials, friends, family and former and current Arlington officials to the dinner in the auditorium.

• Friendly's dodged a couple of bullets at a Board of Health meeting, escaping a plan to remove seats and require stiff food safety certification programs in favor of in-house solutions.

Friendly's was closed after a worker was discovered to have hepatitis A and inspectors found improper food handling procedures and other health code violations, said Health Director Christine Connolly.

Food was handled without gloves; workers did not wash hands after contacting raw foods; eggs were left on counters, out of refrigerators in the cooking areas; and other violations were

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Soup's up

Geillios Café in East Arlington is known for its soups. The eatery makes 18 gallons of soup daily.

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AC wins

The Arlington Catholic boys hockey team captured the Ed Burns Holiday Tournament crown by beating Reading 3-0.

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a look Inside

Ready to run

Town Meeting member Annie LaCourt announced she is running for the Board of Selectmen.

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Cook-off

Not Your Average Joe's is hosting a cook-off this month.

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Self-service kiosk at post office

The Arlington Post Office is now one of only 2,500 sites in the country that has an Automated Postal Center, a self-service kiosk located in the lobby of the Court Street building.

The kiosk, which is similar to an ATM machine, is designed to provide a more convenient, efficient experience for postal customers and is also intended to reduce lines at the retail counter.

The machine's services include express mail with next day delivery guaranteed, priority mail, first class mail for packages weighing less than 13 ounces and parcel post for packages 70 pounds or less. Customers can also buy stamps and look up zip codes using the kiosk.

On Saturday, Jan. 8, the Arlington Post Office manager Joe Fish, is inviting residents to head down to the post office and try the machine, which can weigh and calculate the exact postage needed for a particular package. Refreshments will be served.

Post office personnel will be on hand to help customers familiarize themselves with the APC.

The following are excerpts from the Arlington Police Department log. The information is open to the public.

Monday, Dec. 27

• At 6:24 p.m., police responded to a motor vehicle accident on Park Avenue. Both vehicles were towed and one person was taken to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Tuesday, Dec. 28

• At 11:34 a.m., police received a call about a domestic assault and battery on Frost Street. Police are investigating.

• At 1:22 p.m., a pedestrian called police after a passing motor vehicle's mirror reportedly struck her on Massachusetts Avenue. The motorist did not stop. Police investigated and spoke to the driver at his Cambridge home. They don't believe the motorist knew the mirror hit the pedestrian.

• At 2:19 p.m., police responded to Hardy School about graffiti.

• At 7:41 p.m., police received a call about a solicitor asking for donations in the Greeley Circle area. Police were unable to locate the person.

• At 8:38 p.m., a Silk Street resident whose home was recently burglarized called police after seeing teenagers hanging out near her home.

• At 9:25 p.m., a Webcowet Road resident reported a motorist struck a parked car and left the area. Police are investigating.

Wednesday, Dec. 29

• At 7:08 a.m., police responded to a Massachusetts Avenue store after a burglar reportedly disabled an alarm, forced open a rear door and safe and stole a "large quantity of cash." Police are investigating and enhancing video footage of the crime.

• At 9:15 a.m., an officer spoke to a Walnut Street resident about a snow/ice removal violation after receiving a complaint. The person agreed to comply with the town bylaw.

• At 9:17 a.m., a Hardy School official called police after finding graffiti.

• At 5:33 p.m., a Hamilton Road resident reported jewelry was missing from a condo. There were no signs of forced entry. Police are investigating.

• At 8:57 p.m., a Silk Street resident called police after discovering footprints in her yard near utility meters. She requested a patrol.

Thursday, Dec. 30

• At 1:02 p.m., police received a call from Virginia Road after someone

POLICE LOG

Arrests

Thursday, Dec. 30

• At 6:35 p.m., police arrested German Tely Rivera, 36, 116 Spencer Ave., Apt. 3, Chelsea, and charged him on a warrant for driving a motor vehicle without a license. Sgt. Robert Bongiorno was leaving the Community Safety Building when he allegedly saw a car speed past the station. He pulled over the vehicle and found Rivera had a warrant for his arrest. Bongiorno made the arrest.

Friday, Dec. 31

• At 8:59 p.m., police arrested Kimberly A. Savage, 43, 152 Broadway, Apt. 4, and charged her with disturbing the peace. Officer Michael Wesley responded to Broadway concerning a woman lying on the sidewalk. The officer found Savage, who was allegedly intoxicated. A store manager at a nearby business told the officer Savage was inconveniencing customers. The officer spoke to Savage who was allegedly belligerent. Wesley made the arrest.

Saturday, Jan. 1

• At 1:07 a.m., police arrested Dianne M. Shea, 37, 52 Marathon St. and charged her with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and a marked lanes violation. Officer Gary Flavin responded to Mystic Street concerning a motor vehicle accident. The officer found a car stuck in a snow bank near the Winchester Country Club parking lot. Flavin spoke to the driver who was reportedly slurring her speech and had glassy eyes. The officer could also smell alcohol on Shea's breath. Police asked Shea to perform field sobriety tests, which she declined. Flavin made the arrest.

Sunday, Jan. 2

• At 1:19 a.m., police arrested Thomas R. Branagan, 26, 17 Arizona Terrace, Apt. 2, and charged him with operating a motor vehicle after his license was suspended, failing to stop for a stop sign and operating a motor vehicle while drinking alcohol from an open container. Officer Douglas Cronin was at Gardner and Fremont streets when he reportedly saw a motorist not come to a complete stop at a stop sign. Cronin followed the motorist and pulled over Branagan on Silk Street. The officer found the man was driving with a suspended license. He also discovered two open beer bottles in the car. Cronin made the arrest.

threw eggs at a house, breaking a storm window.

• At 3:32 p.m., police responded to a Massachusetts Avenue residence after cash was reportedly taken from a hiding place. An hour later, police returned to the scene after a report of stolen prescription medicine. Police are investigating.

• At 7:14 p.m., police responded to Massachusetts Avenue after a car was burglarized. A thief reportedly forced open a car door and stole a briefcase.

• At 7:20 p.m., a Ernest Road resident called police after a chair was stolen from a porch.

Friday, Dec. 31

• At 2:04 p.m., police received a call about a car driving on Thorndike Field. Officers found no damage, but discov-

ered tire tracks in the snow.

• At 5:08 p.m., a Marathon Street resident called police about a man on property who didn't belong there. Police responded and found the person was the homeowner.

Saturday, Jan. 1

• At 12:04 a.m., a Peirce Street resident reported loud music. Police restored order.

• At 12:23 a.m., police responded to a fight at Daniels Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The combatants left before police arrived.

• At 3:21 a.m., police placed an intoxicated person on Colonial Drive into protective custody.

• At 1:42 p.m., an officer secured an unlocked tomb door at the Old Burying Ground.

Tai Chi class offered at Martial Arts for Health

If you are the parent or caregivers of a child or children with special needs then you need to take care of yourself as well.

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The first class will be Friday, Jan. 7 from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Wear comfortable clothing.

Martial Arts for Health is at 301 Broadway (across from the Central Fire Station).

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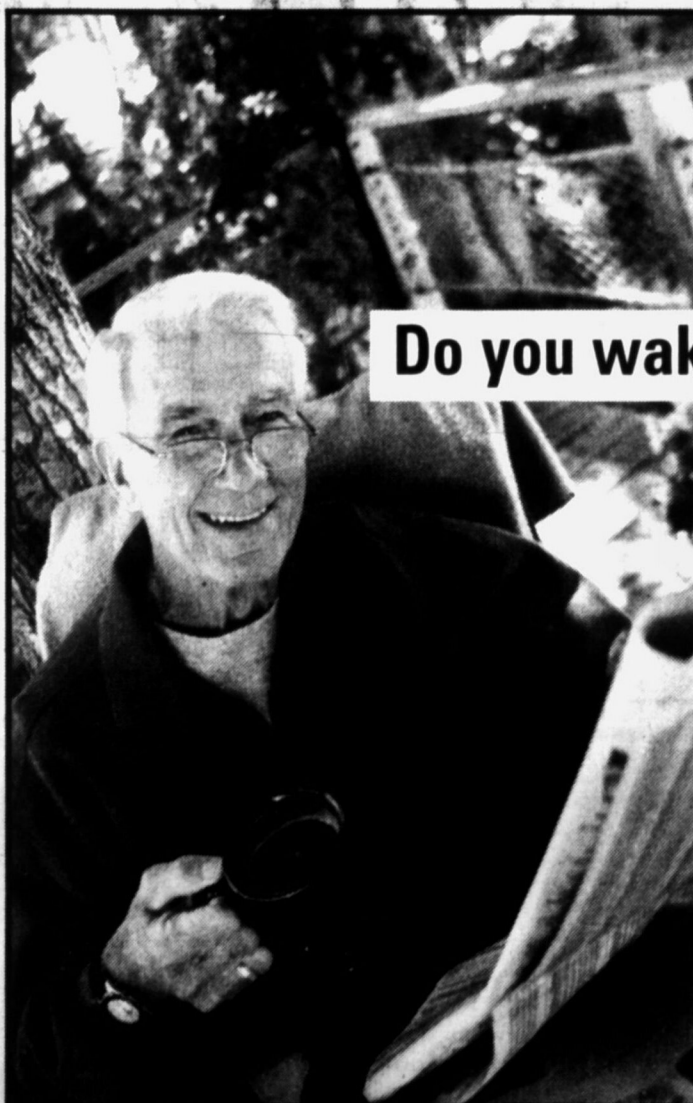
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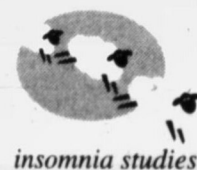
People with insomnia may have trouble falling asleep, wake up several times during the night, wake up too early in the morning and wake up still feeling tired.

It also can cause problems during the day including tiredness, lack of energy, difficulty concentrating and irritability.

If you or someone you love is living with insomnia and is aged 65 or older, you may be interested in a research study for an investigational medication for insomnia.

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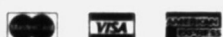
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Friday, Jan. 7

- Beyond The Sea (PG) — 2:30; 5; 7:30; 10
- Vera Drake (R) — 4:55; 7:25; 9:50
- Gloomy Sunday (NR) — 5:20; 7:40; 10:05
- Ray (PG13) — 1; 3:55; 6:50; 9:40
- I Heart Huckabees (R) — 1:25; 3:30; 5:35; 7:45; 9:55
- Christmas With The Kranks (PG) — 1:15; 3:20
- The Spongebob Squarepants Movie (PG) — 1:10; 3:05
- What The #*#! Do We Know? (NR) — 5:25; 7:35; 9:45
- Shark Tale (PG) — 1:30; 3:25

Saturday & Sunday, Jan. 8 & 9

- Beyond The Sea (PG) — 12; 2:30; 5; 7:30; 10
- Vera Drake (R) — 4:55; 7:25; 9:50
- Gloomy Sunday (NR) — 5:20; 7:40; 10:05
- Ray (PG13) — 1; 3:55; 6:50; 9:40
- I Heart Huckabees (R) — 11:20; 1:25; 3:30; 5:35; 7:45; 9:55

- Christmas With The Kranks (PG) — 11:10; 1:15; 3:20
- The Spongebob Squarepants Movie (PG) — 11:15; 1:10; 3:05
- What The #*#! Do We Know? (NR) — 5:25; 7:35; 9:45
- Shark Tale (PG) — 11:25; 1:30; 3:25

Monday-Thursday, Jan. 10-13

- Beyond The Sea (PG) — 2:30; 5; 7:30; 10
- Vera Drake (R) — 4:55; 7:25; 9:50
- Gloomy Sunday (NR) — 5:20; 7:40; 10:05
- Ray (PG13) — 1; 3:55; 6:50; 9:40
- I Heart Huckabees (R) — 1:25; 3:30; 5:35; 7:45; 9:55
- Christmas With The Kranks (PG) — 1:15; 3:20
- The Spongebob Squarepants Movie (PG) — 1:10; 3:05
- What The #*#! Do We Know? (NR) — 5:25; 7:35; 9:45
- Shark Tale (PG) — 1:30; 3:25

Paulsen plans office hours

Rep. Anne M. Paulsen will hold office hours in Arlington on Wednesday, Jan. 12 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Fox Library at the corner of Cleveland Street and Massachusetts Avenue.

All East Arlington residents are welcome to come and

meet Paulsen to let her know about concerns they have or to ask for help with legislation or in dealing with state agencies.

Ready to tackle budget crunch

LaCourt running for selectman

By Roberto Scalese
STAFF WRITER

Annie LaCourt thinks the town can do better in budgeting.

LaCourt, who is running for selectman, said the town needs to take a long view of its budgeting priorities. That doesn't mean just looking for future shortages. Budgeting should include stated goals and identifiable, measurable priorities which should be funded, she said.

The Town Meeting member said her best skills are qualities needed for budgeting in tough times.

"What I see the town needing right now in way of leadership and policy-setting is something I'm good at," said LaCourt. "Part of that is taking a look at what we need and setting priorities at a more detailed level than saying public works, is a priority, or public safety or education."

Budgeting by the town should be done in a manner similar to making home finances work, said LaCourt. If a family's income drops, some items will have to be cut and other items will still have to be paid. You can't pay 80 percent of an electric bill, but you can cut down on how often you go out to eat.

"You really have to think about what your financial priorities are and rank them," said LaCourt.

LaCourt said her background, both in working in technical theater and running her own business, has given her skill sets that

would help her as a selectman.

"I worked four years in technical theater. It's an environment where you have to be proactive," said LaCourt. "I've learned to be a good listener. I learned that from running my own business. You start with one skill, which is what your business does, but you also have to learn budgeting, marketing and all these other skills. You have to pick up these skills, and frankly, you learn from your mistakes."

With an estimated operating deficit of \$5 million, a tax override seems likely in the next year. LaCourt helped to run the failed 2003 override effort. She said she would support another override if the town could show voters what's needed and where the money would go.

"I would support an override if I felt we had a realistic expectation of what we could ask for and we could clearly show what we would spend the money on and why we need it," she said.

LaCourt said that level of clarity was missing in the 2003 campaign. If the town is to keep its core services, it has to show that more money is needed.

"The numbers (Town Manager) Brian Sullivan presented clearly pointed out an ongoing problem that's not going to be solved by cuts," said LaCourt.

While town policies that guide the budget process aren't always popular, they shouldn't be discarded without a thorough examination of alternatives. LaCourt

said models like the O'Neil formula, which pays for fixed costs first and then allocates the remaining revenue proportionally to different departments, may need to be replaced, but shouldn't be scrapped without a second thought.

"I have a hard time with formulas that don't let you think," said LaCourt. "At the same time, many people who advocate for the schools want to get rid of the O'Neil formula, but I don't think that would necessarily be of help to the schools... I think that if nothing else changes, we shouldn't get rid of O'Neil, but if we are looking at all our policies, we should look at that as well."

LaCourt said she approves of rehabbing the town's three fire stations, but wishes the process had gone in a different direction. Instead of commissioning a report and then ignoring its findings, the town should have been more explicit in the parameters it wanted the MMA Consulting report to address. And instead of

starting the reconstruction at Park Circle, another location would have given the town more options if it ever wanted to revisit the number of stations needed in town.

"I wish we were at least considering a debt exclusion to cover major capital expenses like this," said LaCourt. Any debt exclusion, however, would have to be considered, she added.

Above all, LaCourt wants the town's business to be transparent. While the town dutifully works to hold public meetings and make records public, there's always more that can be done, she said.

"I think we have a communication problem in that information doesn't always get out," said LaCourt. "I think we need to take advantage of the Internet more than we do now. We need a person not for the technical work, but to manage content... The idea that we can't get meeting minutes up in a timely fashion is a problem."

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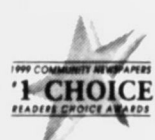
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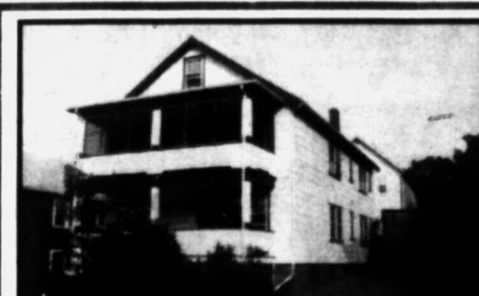
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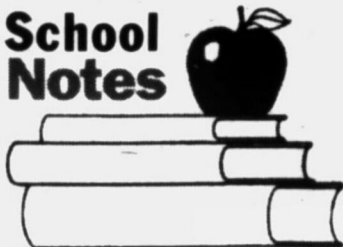
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Arlington

Learning

SCHOOL NOTES

School Notes



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Sped PAC hosts forum tonight

The Special Education Parent Advisory Council will hold a forum from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 6 in the Hardy School.

Dr. Daniel Mosco, chairman of the Arlington Coordinated Program Review with the Department of Education, and Jennifer Weissman, Arlington's PQA Liaison, will attend a forum designed to give parents an opportunity to

comment as a group on special programs, services, timelines and procedures offered to children with special needs in Arlington schools.

In addition, Mosco and Weissman will provide an overview of PQA, the complaint system and gather input about programs and services provided by Arlington's Department of Special Student Services for inclusion in the six-year comprehensive program review now taking place in Arlington. The forum will conclude with an open session for questions and answers. Trish Orlovsky will be the moderator.

Feedback will be given by the group; attendees will not discuss individual case details. Those who would like to discuss any detailed information about rights, procedures or services, before or after this forum, contact Mosco directly 781-338-3748 or e-mail: dmosco@doe.mass.edu.

Please RSVP, as handouts will be given only to those who reply. Contact Trish Orlovsky, SpedPac chairperson in Arlington, if you plan to attend: 781-641-0182 or e-mail t_orlovsky@hotmail.com.

The final report will be issued

in Late February or early March. For more information about PQA and the program review process, or to review the Mid-Cycle review prepared for Arlington, visit these sites:

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/>

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/followup>

The Arlington SpedPac provides speakers and workshops to the community about issues related to special education and meeting the needs of learners with special needs. The meetings are free and open. If you are interested in our workshops or wish to help with this mission, please contact Trish Orlovsky 781-641-0182 or subscribe to the group's list by contacting Trish: t_orlovsky@hotmail.com with SUBSCRIBE in the subject.

Friends of AHS seeks donations

Friends of Arlington High School seeks a small refrigerator for the AHS wrestling team, good quality side arm chairs for the Science Department and boom boxes for the Music Department.

If you would like to donate any of these items, please call 781-648-0533 or e-mail lhomp@aol.com.

Ottoson seeks liaison to shop

The Ottoson Parent Advisory Committee needs a volunteer to serve as the school liaison to Arlington's PTO Thrift Shop.

For more information, contact OPAC at 781-648-0533 or e-mail lhomp@aol.com.

Calendar benefits enrichment fund

Arlington Educational Enrichment Fund (AEEF) has produced its inaugural calendar which it intends to develop annually featuring unique aspects of the town.

This year's calendar features the watercolors of John S. Coles, an Arlington artist whose watercolors of town landmarks were painted exclusively for this issue. Please visit aeeef-arlington.org to view and order the calendar. The

price is \$15; a portion is tax deductible. The calendars are also available at Maxima Art, Coldwell Banker, The Book Rack, R.S.V.P., PTO Thrift Store, The Dallin Museum and Pink Dolly.

The AEEF is a nonprofit educational foundation, which awards grant money to the educators in Arlington's public schools. More than \$100,000 has been given since its creation, to support enrichment and excellence for our town's students.

Thompson School notes

• Greenhouse: Thanks to Evelyn DeRosa and Mary Wisniewski Thompson School now has a green house in the courtyard so the children can begin to grow plants this spring. Many thanks to Mike Martin, Joe Gabriels, Dan Doherty, Bill Burton, Shun Yamaguchi and Nick Marino who made it happen. Also special thanks you to Lalicata Landscaping Supplies who donated the stone.

• Enrichment: The third grade went to see a matinee production of "Ramona Quimby" at the Wheelock Family Theatre in Boston recently. Ramona is the pesky younger sister of Beezus, made famous in the Beezus and Ramona books by Beverly Cleary. Later in the year, the third graders will be reading books by Beverly Cleary.

• Bortops for Education: Last year, Thompson School raised more than \$1,300 with the General Mills Box tops for Education contest. Again, the PTO will be offering incentives to encourage collection of Bortops. Donations from the community are welcomed.

• Cookie Swap: The Thompson School community participated in a cookie swap on Friday, Dec. 17. Participants were able to swap a dozen cookies for a dozen baked. Children enjoyed decorating their own cookie while sipping on hot cocoa.

Upcoming events:

• Pampered Chef Night: Thursday, Jan. 20
• Community Meeting Night: Potluck — Friday, Jan. 28.
• PTO Parent Dance and Social: Sons of Italy: Friday, Feb. 4.

Students recognized

Ten Arlington High School students were among an elite group of students who were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program for "exceptional academic promise" on the PSAT/NMSQT exam.

Earning semifinalist status was senior Laura Sard. Sard's scores were among the top 2 percent of one million students who took this exam across the nation. Scoring in the top 3-5 percent and earning Commended Student recognition were Isaac Aptaker, Lauren Buckley, Marie Efromson, Daniel Hurowitz, Nathaniel Jackson, Matthew Kobayashi, Daniel Reedy, Dana Schroeder and Gregory Shapiro.

Burns acts in 'Cheaper'

The Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart Performing Arts Department recently presented "Cheaper by the Dozen" in the school's theatre.

Arlington resident Rachel Burns, a junior, starred as Frank Gilbreth, the eldest son.

Under the direction of drama teacher Charles Hodges, a cast of more than 20 students and faculty staged the three-act comedy based on the 1950s book of the same name.

Authored by Frank Gilbreth, Jr. and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey and dramatized by Christopher Sergel, the play is based on the real-life story of the Gilbreth family and is filled with amusing anecdotes of 12 children who attempt to educate their parents to the popular culture of the 1920s.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Week of Jan. 10
Middle and High School
Monday

Tossed salad w/egg, tuna and cheese/fat free dressing, multigrain roll.

Tuesday

Roast pork loin w/gravy, baked potato, corn, applesauce.

Wednesday

Pasta w/stir fry, veggies and chicken, garlic bread.

Thursday

Toasted ham, cheese and tomato, potato salad, fresh carrots.

Friday

BBQ chicken w/biscuit, corn on the cob.

Hot and cold sandwiches, salads, pasta, pizza, calzones, veggie burgers, stir fry vegetables, grill and daily specials offered daily. Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with all meals. Lunch prices: \$1.75, \$1.85, \$2, \$2.50, \$2.75.

Elementary

Monday

French toast slices w/potato puffs, orange juice; chicken parmesan sandwich w/pretzels/pears; tossed salad w/cheddar cheese, yogurt, multigrain roll.

Tuesday

Pizza cheese bagel w/tossed salad/juice; bacon cheeseburger w/veggie brown rice, carrot sticks; egg salad pita sandwich w/sun chips, juice bar.

Wednesday

Ham and cheese roll up w/pretzels, fruit cocktail; hot dog w/tossed salad; tossed salad w/tuna, egg and cheese, oatmeal bread, banana.

Thursday

Toasted cheese sandwich w/pretzels, fruit yogurt; chicken nuggets, brown rice, celery sticks, dip; pasta w/meatballs, salad, bread stick.

Friday

Fresh fruit salad, raisin bagel, low fat cream cheese yogurt; Personal pan pizza w/salad, juice; turkey pita w/lettuce and tomato, pretzels and juice bar.

Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with every meal. Lunch price: \$2.

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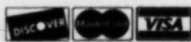
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Annual MLK event Jan. 17

The annual community Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance is planned for Monday, Jan. 17 at the First Baptist Church in Arlington. This celebration is open to all members of the community and begins with a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. The dinner is followed by a program at 7:30 featuring state Rep. Byron Rushing. A musical performance by The Twelfth Baptist Church Handbell Choir is also planned.

Those attending the potluck dinner are asked to bring a main dish or dessert to serve six adults. Those who cannot attend the potluck dinner are welcome to attend the program. Childcare will be provided at the event.

An additional program for children, Freedoms and Songs, with storyteller Valerie Stephens, is offered at Robbins Library on Saturday, Jan. 22 at 2 p.m. This performance celebrates the lives of heroic Americans who worked to end slavery in the

United States.

A free-will offering will be taken during the evening's program. Proceeds will be divided between the Center for Non-Violent Studies in Atlanta, the Arlington Public Schools and the Arlington African-American Scholarship Fund. Those who cannot attend, but would like to make a donation can send checks to the Martin Luther King Committee at 819 Mass. Ave., Arlington 02476.

The annual dinner and celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day is coordinated by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance Committee of Arlington, an interfaith committee of Arlington residents.

The First Baptist Church of Arlington is located at 819 Mass. Ave., across from Johnny's Foodmaster.

For more information about this event, please call 781-643-4345.

Housing Corporation offers affordable units

Is your family in need of stable and affordable housing? The Housing Corporation of Arlington may be able to help.

HCA currently owns 14 two-family homes in Arlington, which it rents to income-qualified households. The units range in size from two to five bedrooms. Rent starts at \$950/month for two bedrooms, not including utilities.

Applicants for housing must have annual gross household incomes that do not exceed the following income limits that are set by HUD and adjusted annually:

- \$39,700 Three-person household —
 - \$44,700 Four-person household —
 - \$49,600 Five-person household —
 - \$53,600 Six-person household —
 - \$57,600
- Priority is given to families with children. All units are free of lead paint.
- Applications are available immediately at HCA's offices, 20 Academy St., second floor. Section 8 vouchers welcome.
- For more information, call 781-316-3429.

Questions part of census

In the coming weeks, residents will be receiving the annual town census from the town of Arlington.

This year's census includes an insert from the Arlington Human Rights Commission describing its work followed by a short questionnaire. The commission would appreciate it if residents could take five minutes to complete the questionnaire and return it with their town census.

Feedback will greatly assist the group's work.

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Moriarty honored for courage

Arlington native Michael Moriarty was awarded the Army Commendation medal in Iraq on Dec. 17.

Moriarty is a member of Co. 3-172nd Infantry (Mountain) and has been serving in Iraq for the past nine months as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Moriarty is based at LSA Anaconda where he is a gunner performing security and patrol missions in and around the Baghdad area. He was awarded the Army Commendation

Medal as well as a Certificate of Appreciation from the Army for meritorious achievement in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On Veterans Day while leaving the dining facility, a mortar attack erupted. Moriarty, with no regard for his own personal safety during a mortar attack, stabilized multiple casualties. When an incoming round struck the rear portion of the dining facility, instead of taking cover immediately, Moriarty

ran to the point of impact assessed the damage and was one of the first soldiers to perform First Aid to the wounded.

Moriarty was recognized for his courage, dedication, selfless service and devotion to duty.

He is the father of Matthew, 5 and Kenley, 1 and husband of Randi. After Sept. 11, 2001, he re-enlisted in the New Hampshire National Guard and volunteered to go to Iraq.

Warrant is open

At its Dec. 20 meeting, the Board of Selectmen voted to open the warrant for the annual Town Meeting.

The warrant will remain open until noon Friday, Jan. 21.

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Perspectives

EDITORIAL

Five issues to watch in 2005

The Advocate wishes Arlington residents a happy and fruitful new year. The beginning of another year causes people to take stock in their lives and surroundings. This is also a time when we think back over the year and see what has been accomplished.

Over the past year, some issues have been resolved, but there are still many still in flux.

Here are five issues we see in 2005:

Override

The latest budget estimates from the Town Manager's office show a \$5 million deficit for the next fiscal year.

Arlington has made cuts to its budget and used one-time money to cover gaps after voters turned down a Proposition 2 1/2 override two years ago.

Since then, town officials have been tightening the financial belt. Through savings and use of one-time money like the rainy day fund, Arlington has been able to keep the cuts to a minimum since the override failed.

Now, with a \$5 million gap predicted and local leaders not expecting any help from the state, Arlington is faced with another possible override.

School Committee members were not pleased when the Board of Selectmen found a way to bridge a \$2.2 million gap without an override last year. School advocates felt that freezing spending and using one-time money may have bridged the chasm, but it also didn't bring in any new revenue.

They will surely push for another override attempt this year; expect another referendum on the ballot this year.

Selectmen's race

This race could be the most heated battle for selectmen since 2000 when East Arlington activist George Laite ran an unsuccessful campaign to unseat Jack Hurd and Kathleen Dias.

With less than three months before the April 2 election, there are already four challengers looking to unseat incumbents Charles Lyons and Diane Mahon.

School advocates have been outspoken in their disappointment with the Board of Selectmen. They were most notably upset about a "lack of leadership" during the override campaign.

Lyons was the lone selectman who opposed the override in 2003 and will likely face the wrath of school supporters who believe his opposition helped defeat the override. Mahon, meanwhile, displeased override supporters because they felt she did not voice advocate strongly enough for the referendum.

School activists have been waiting for the time when Lyons and Mahon ran for re-election. They will get their chance to unseat the incumbents in April.

School rebuild

Construction on the new Dallin School continues with officials hoping to have the new building open in January 2006.

Once the Dallin School nears completion, the town will have to turn its attention to the two remaining elementary schools that have not been rebuilt — Thompson and Stratton.

While the other four have been completed and the Dallin community will soon enjoy a new school, Thompson and Stratton have waited. The two schools were part of a \$34.5 million debt exclusion override in 2000.

Rising construction costs have eaten into the \$34.5 million and the state is not accepting new schools on its school building reimbursement list. The other school construction has enjoyed a 63 percent reimbursement rate, but there is no guarantee the town will receive the same amount for Thompson and Stratton.

There is a legitimate chance that the two schools will remain in their current state for the near future. It's going to take plenty of advocacy and muscle at the State House to jumpstart the school reimbursement list. Until then, students will have to learn in the old Thompson and Stratton schools, while the other five elementary schools enjoy new or renovated buildings.

Fire station rebuild

The Board of Selectmen finally agreed to add the Park Circle Fire Station rebuild to its fiscal year 2006 capital budget in November.

Park Circle is in deplorable condition and includes a garage floor that was condemned, causing the Fire Department to erect a temporary bay for Engine 3.

While the selectmen have waited to rebuild Park Circle, the other two stations, Highland and Central, continue to also need major repairs.

Though the selectmen voted to place Park Circle on the capital budget, there is no guarantee Town Meeting will support the rebuild. There has already been questions raised by Town Meeting members who wonder if the town even needs three fire stations.

Their thinking revolves around a MMA Consulting study in 2001 that suggested Arlington close Park Circle and redistribute staff to the two remaining stations.

Then-Fire Chief Richard Maimone opposed the idea, stating the importance of having firefighters responding to scenes faster with three fire stations. The Board of Selectmen decided at the time to keep three stations, but didn't agree to place the first station (Park Circle) on the capital budget until three years later.

Whether Town Meeting will approve the Park Circle rebuild or ask for more study on the three fire-station proposal is a subject to watch in 2005. If Town Meeting approves the Park Circle work, the next issue will be how does the town fund work at the remaining two fire stations?

Symmes

Developer EA Fish is still tweaking plans for the reconstruction of the former Symmes Hospital parcel.

The proposal includes around 250 housing units, open space and a medical facility. The specifics are still in flux.

It has been three years since voters approved a debt exclusion override to pay for the Symmes parcel. The process has been exhausting. Hundreds of hours have been spent laying the ground work for the process, hiring a developer and creating a plan that will satisfy the town, EA Fish and neighbors.

If the Symmes process was a child, it would be in its preschool days. The town has gone through the infancy and toddler years with the Symmes project, but as any parent knows, there are still many developmental years ahead.

Over the next year, EA Fish and the Redevelopment Board will flush out Symmes' future. There will surely be bumps in the road, but hopefully as we close 2005, residents will feel more comfortable with the project.

The majority of these five issues will remain concerns when we head into 2006. The question is how much progress will town leaders make this year.



COURTESY ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Backward Glance

This snowy shot of the Abel G. Peck mansion at 74 Pleasant St. (built 1850) was taken around 1905 and belonged the Peck family's neighbor, longtime Advocate editor and publisher Charles S. Parker, of Pelham Terrace. Peck was a Boston merchant whose daughter, Angeline, was the wife of Gov. J. Q. A. Brackett of 87 Pleasant St. The Peck mansion was razed in 1930 to make way for St. John's Episcopal Church.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opines on developments

I wonder if the consternation about the removal of one house for the building of three at Scituate and Gray, ("Officials seek to stop tear downs," Dec. 30 Advocate), the development at Knowles Farm ("Knowles Farm clears hurdle," Dec. 23 Advocate), and the construction at the former Times Oldsmobile site might be about people: 1) fearing change, 2) having what they have and not wanting others to have the same, and/or, 3) simply not being able to mind their business.

I am a native Arlingtonian, Arlington property owner and taxpayer, as well as the proud owner of a 1904 Colonial Revival home in the Chelmsford Historic District, a long-time member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and holder of lifetime membership in the Chelmsford Land Conservation Trust. I am also one who tries to take the larger view by considering all competing interests, not only my own.

I suggest that if the reverse were to happen at Scituate and Gray — if three smaller homes on three 6,000 foot lots were knocked down for the construction of one larger "McMansion" — as is more apt to happen in pricier towns — these same folks would still be carping and complaining.

I always thought the torn-down home interesting — that it sat nicely on its lot. And while ordinarily saddened by the removal of older buildings, this predisposition should be juxtaposed to the positives. Now three families will have homes, whereas only one did before. A builder and his many tradespersons will provide support for their families. The new homes will sit on lots as large as those around them, lots larger than many in much of the town. All said, I fail to understand the outrage.

In vibrant East Arlington, many lots are even smaller — 5,000 feet or less

— many having two housing units on them. Street after street of homes built on former farms by, dare I say it, "developers." Oh, the horrors.

Would anyone suggest that every second one be removed in order to provide larger lots and lessen congestion? Would anybody recommend that some be destroyed in order to bring back a farm? Who among us would volunteer to give up his or her home for such noble undertakings?

Folks complained for years about the eyesore that was Time Oldsmobile. They fought a successful battle against a commercial use, but thereby ensured the eyesore would remain longer. A builder now takes a risk and will provide much-needed housing, but rather than being thrown a banquet in his honor, which might be more appropriate, he is vilified, insulted and publicly heaped with scorn, invective and ad hominem attacks.

Change can be difficult and must certainly have limits. And I don't mean to be melodramatic, but sometimes what I perceive my hometown has become can almost make me weep.

Nicholas G. Xenos
SUMMER STREET

Bring on the parking tickets

I support the overnight parking ban in Arlington.

Cars parked overnight during a snowstorm impede snow removal and reduce my street to one lane of travel for days after the storm. Walnut Street is only 20 feet wide from curb to curb so half the street remains unplowed if a car is parked on the street. Incomplete snow removal is especially hazardous on a hill.

Homeowners and landlords should provide off-street parking for themselves and their tenants. I am in favor of increased enforcement of the parking ban. Bring on the tickets.

Jennifer Parker
WALNUT STREET

Appreciates work of public safety

What a touching story particularly for this holiday season: The article that appeared in the Dec. 23 Advocate that detailed the rescue of a helpless and hopeless hawk got me thinking about how lucky we are to have the dedicated men and women that we have working for us as police and fire professionals ("Hawk is flying high again: Bird rescued from culvert").

The story about one of our firefighters, Lt. Norris, rescue of the stranded bird was a touching account of how he put his own health and safety in peril by wading in waist high water in the culvert under Peirce Field with only his flashlight to guide the way.

I can't imagine what that must've been like on that bitterly cold day to help the stranded animal. Carrying the literally frozen bird through the culvert and seeing to it that the bird survived and is now soaring once again...

What a heart warming story. I can only imagine what he and they would do if it was a human life on the line.

I don't too often think about what goes on in the background for us while we work and live here in town. The Fire and Police departments often go unnoticed until something big happens. It's nice to know that they are there... even for the small stuff.

Great job and thanks.

John Judd
CYPRESS ROAD

No such thing as a free lunch

The Advocate's stories on the town's ongoing budget crisis reminds me yet again of the axiom: There Is No Free Lunch. If we, as the town's residents, want services, we have to pay for them.

Letters, Page 7

LETTERS POLICY

Do you have an opinion about a story you read? Do you disagree or agree with an editorial or another letter writer? Are you pleased or displeased about something?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, let your voice be heard and write a letter to the editor.

To be published, here is a quick idea of what we want:

• A signature, your street address and either a daytime phone number, home phone number, or both. We will not print

the information — only your name, street name, and title (where applicable). We will not print anonymous letters.

• Letters should be limited to 400 words.

• We reserve the right to edit for space, clarity, and civility. The Advocate respects differences of opinions, but we also demand respectful discourse.

• If we receive multiple letters on the same subject, we may run a sampling of opinion.

• The Advocate will not run letters from the same person in consecutive weeks.

• Letters must be dropped off at the Advocate drop box — Community Safety Building lobby, 112 Mystic St. — by noon Monday or delivered by 5 p.m. Monday to the office at 9 Meriam St., Lexington 02420.

• Readers can also fax their letters to 781-674-7735 by 5 p.m. Monday.

• E-mail is also an option at arlington@cnc.com by 5 p.m. Monday.

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HOW TO REACH THE ADVOCATE:

Changes a part of life

Yesterday I awoke to a town blanketed in snow. The glistening ice dripping from rooftops and white powder adorning bushes and wreaths reminded me of the charm of New England.

This quaintness often escapes my memory because I spent the last four years at a college in New York, where the winters are often more abrasive than picturesque. After glancing out the window at the snow, I happily curled up in bed, enveloped in warmth.

Five minutes later, I awoke with the realization that the winter days in college spent lounging in pajamas with roommates and HBO are part of my past now. Gone are those moments of indecision, during which I contemplated whether to brave the elements and attend class or sit by the fire and watch television with my friends, who sometimes chose truancy over trudging through the snow.

Now, instead of sleeping in and while the day away with my best friends, I shovel out my car and drive the precarious, icy route to my job on the North Shore. Six months ago, I entered the world of health insurance, school loans, 401K accounts and full-time employment.

As I transition to this new phase in my life, I struggle to adapt to an adult role. But these changes are life's inevitable turning points and I navigate the unfamiliar terrain cautiously but

Guest Columnist Naomi Funkhouser

always optimistically.

As the year ends, I pause to reflect on new beginnings. In the past year, I witnessed incredible life changes among those I hold closest to my heart. A best friend who I have known since elementary school graduated from college and began working with autistic children, a job that demands endless patience and a generous heart. She lives her life gracefully, and at 22 her compassion is well beyond her years.

Another friend awaits notification from law schools, and when she opens her letters of admission or rejection, a new chapter in her life will unfold. My sister entered her second year of college and her career goals began to take shape.

My mother began a new job, proving to me that career shifts in middle age are not only possible, but sometimes necessary so our spirits remain vibrant. In January, a friend begins an internship in her final semester of college at a renowned com-

pany that creates surgical apparel and medical devices, assuring me that young, great minds can participate in achieving brilliant innovations and positively affect people who suffer from diagnoses that seem insurmountable.

Life requires that we make decisions and embrace change. Some changes challenge us, like extracting oneself from a relationship that is detrimental to one's emotional well-being and as agonizing as that decision may seem, when our hearts are weary, we must let go and move forward.

Tennessee Williams wrote, "There is a time for departure even when there's no certain place to go." Other changes excite us, like beginning a new job or moving to a different city. Whatever the transition, it marks the beginning of new opportunities.

We leave our former selves behind us. In "Atlas Shrugged," Ayn Rand writes, "These had been his stops, the stations which an express had reached and passed."

I wish you many stops and a lifetime of new beginnings.

Naomi Funkhouser is an Arlington resident.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters, from Page 6

It seems to me that payment from the general taxes should be reserved for those public goods, like public education or police protection, where the primary beneficiary is the town or society at large — the benefit is too diverse to be allocable to an individual.

Public goods like water and sewer supply to a residence, or trash collection, or ambulance service are of a different nature in that the benefit can be allocated primarily to an individual or household. (In the case of the high price of water and sewer and the MWRA cleanup, the individual is paying the true cost of the service, which includes mitigating any environmental impacts.)

To continue to argue that these goods, because they were once paid by general taxation, should always be paid by general taxes or that the quirk in deductibility that means federal taxpayers should subsidize the generally richer Arlingtonians, is evidence of a continued belief in a free lunch, as is the continuation of the present massive federal deficit.

The season aside, most of Arlington's and the nation's taxpayers are far too mature to believe in either Santa Claus or a free lunch. It is high time that

we stopped thinking that other taxpayers, whether state or federal, should be paying for our consumption.

We should either pay more or consume a lot less public goods and services. The notion that private goods and services are always superior to public ones is bunk and we should be paying through taxes and fees for the goods and services we consume, although we should be making the choice between how much public or private goods and services we want for ourselves.

Freeland Abbott
MADISON AVENUE

Questions decision

As a resident of Arlington and an individual who takes great pride in the pristine beaches of the Massachusetts area, I was deeply saddened to learn that a local group, Sustainable Arlington, has bestowed its blessing upon the proposed Cape Wind project on Nantucket Sound ("Sustainable Arlington supports Cape Wind, Dec. 30 Advocate).

The project, despite its positive image, will be perhaps the gravest threat to the unspoiled heritage of one of America's last great places.

I have reviewed the recently released Army Corps of Engineers study, a study that was highly favorable to the projects developer, the for-profit firm Cape Wind LLC. What the majority of people do not know is that a great deal of research assistance was provided to the Corps by a consulting group retained by the Cape Wind group.

An independent, not-for-profit group, Save Our Sound, has confirmed my belief that the report underestimated the dangers to the Sound, and, while I do not have ample space in this letter to list the reasons, I would urge interested individuals to visit www.saveoursound.org for more information.

In conclusion, I urge Sustainable Arlington to reconsider its position on this very important issue.

Colin R. Campbell
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Election season under way

Election, from Page 1

not pulled papers. Both declined comment on their plans this week.

"At this point, I'm really focusing on the superintendent search," said LaMachia.

Thrope and Goodman have served on the School Committee for 12 years. LaMachia has been on the committee for six years.

Candidates for the Housing Authority have already turned in their papers. Both incumbent Free-land Abbot and challenger Teresa Jeanne Walsh have brought back enough signatures for inclusion on the ballot.

Incumbent Treasurer John Bilafer has also returned nomination papers. Thus far, he is running unopposed, as is Town Clerk Corrine Rainville and Assessor Mary Winstanley O'Connor.

Town Meeting members have until Feb. 7 to pull nomination papers. Candidates for other elected offices have until Feb. 10. All papers must be returned to the Town Clerk's office by the end of business on Feb. 15 so the signatures can be certified.

Voters have until March 14 to register to vote. The election is on April 2.

Board meets with first finalist

Superintendent, from Page 1

Silverman said he saw excellence in teaching at AHS. While most was traditional teaching, he witnessed contemporary teaching as well. In the classrooms he visited, he observed engaged teachers and students, he said.

"I was a bit concerned about the minimal level of instructional technology in the classrooms. I didn't see the use of Smart Boards and student computers in the classrooms other than in the labs," he said, adding technological skills are tools students need when they graduate from AHS.

The AHS students he met expressed pride in their school, but felt their teachers should get more recognition and respect. He also said teachers and students both seemed concerned about class size and teacher loads, although he admitted what he saw may not have been representative of the entire school.

Silverman is a consultant trainer for Ribas Associates in Westwood. He served as superintendent of Brookline Public Schools through the 2004 school year. He previously worked as superintendent and assistant superintendent in Connecticut and was director of

grants and special projects, coordinator of computer education, director of music and music teacher in Massachusetts.

Silverman left Brookline because he did not feel it was a good fit for him, he said.

Committee member Jeff Thielman asked how Silverman would develop a system-wide budget representing his core values.

Most importantly, Silverman said students need to be at the center of everything. He said the year's goals should be determined through a collaborative effort, including input from parents, teachers and administrators. After the superintendent makes the budget recommendation to the School Committee, Silverman said his next step would be to make presentations to parents, community members, schools and PTOs.

"I think it's very important that the town and the schools feel like they're in this together," he said.

Committee member Martin Thrope asked what steps Silverman would take as superintendent to challenge the committee and himself to make the best

decisions for the schools.

Silverman responded through regular, frank open discussions, always holding one another to a higher standard and always asking how it will benefit the students.

Committee member Suzanne Baratta Owayda asked what approaches he would take to arrive at a mutually agreeable employment contract between the School Department and the Arlington Educational Association.

Because he is unfamiliar with past contract issues, he said he would need to review the situation. He added an adversarial approach is counterproductive.

During contract negotiations, Silverman does not believe the superintendent can impartially sit at the negotiating table. In his past negotiations, Silverman said the negotiating team has consisted of School Committee members and a representative from either the human resources department or the finance department.

When Owayda asked how long negotiations should last, Silverman laughed and said, "A lot longer than it should take."

Thrope asked if there is anything he would do before negotiations.

"I've always made it a point that the union president participates in the budget process so they understand the constraints we're working with. Realize, the well-being of our teachers has a direct impact on student achievement. Be mindful that teachers have families and expenses just like the rest of us do and their families have needs," Silverman said.

School Committee member Joani LaMachia asked as superintendent what primary role will Silverman take responsibility for?

"Among my primary roles would be to evaluate the assistant superintendent and to work with principals and the chief financial officer closely. The specific responsibilities I would take on myself would be determined based on the strengths of the people here," he said.

Overall, Silverman said the most important standard is for all students to achieve at high standards.

"I want to be in the classrooms. I want to be in the buildings and I want to know that is taking place," he said.

Ring in new year with a bang

The Cambridge Center for Adult Education will host an African music celebration at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8 at 56 Brattle St., Cambridge.

The traditional West-African djembe drum will sound with a cast of percussive instruments and voices in a special African music celebration, complete with a sampling of African cuisine in Harvard Square.

The DrumConnection Performance Troupe, a team of 12 students and teachers of the DrumConnection school, is joining forces with singer Louise Grasmere and tra-

ditional African singing group Afoxé.

Arlington resident Alan Tauber, director of the troupe, has been playing drums for 45 years and started the DrumConnection in the early 1990s, after teaching at Berklee College of Music. The drumming school has grown in 13 years to include more than 1,000 students in the Greater Boston area.

Tickets are \$7 and can be found at the Cambridge center's Web site at <http://www.ccae.org>. Advance purchase of tickets is strongly recommended as space is limited.

Two flu clinics planned

The Arlington Board of Health announced two area flu clinics.

• On Tuesday, Jan. 11, a clinic, sponsored in part by the Arlington Board of Health, Belmont Board of Health, Watertown Health Department, Newton Health Department and the Brookline Health Department, will be held at the Arsenal Mall on Arsenal Street, Watertown. The clinic will run from 3 to 5 p.m.

• On Thursday, Jan. 13, a clinic, sponsored by Renaissance Health in Partnership with the Arlington Board of Health, will be held at Renaissance Health, 61 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington. The clinic will take place from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information on the flu clinics, please call the Arlington Board of Health flu clinic hotline at 781-316-3413.

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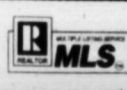
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Sports

Also
in this
section

Honor roll

Check out who made the Arlington High School honor roll.

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Robbins Library 12

Things are heating up on the courts at Arlington High

Bartlett hoping to lead Spy Ponder boys to state tourney

By Doug Hastings
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes, you can find him shooting baskets.

But it isn't always in front of a crowded set of bleachers in the Arlington High School gym. Occasionally, it happens when the building is almost empty, save for a custodian picking up after a Spy Ponder game is complete.

That's when Bartlett can be found letting off a little steam, taking jump shots and driving to the basket for layups if he or his Arlington High boys basketball team didn't perform up to capabilities earlier in the evening.

"If he isn't happy with the way he played, he'll come out here and spend 20 minutes shooting," admitted AHS coach Mike Broderick. "It's good. He doesn't want to settle for anything. He wants to keep getting better and better."

"I'm sure (the custodians) aren't too happy with me when I do that," said Bartlett with a chuckle. "I started to do that last year. It's usually if I have a tough shooting night. It helps me calm down and I try to get my form down."

Lately, Bartlett has had some company. After a loss to Cambridge, a game that Arlington came oh-so-close to winning, junior teammate Armand Tufenkian joined his senior captain.

After recent games against Saugus and Medford, however, there wasn't much to do after the game other than smile.

"We played well in our first few games," said Bartlett. "I think we have a really good group of guys and we have a good shot of making the tournament this year."

AHS hasn't qualified for post-season play in boys basketball since Bartlett's freshman year. Wins over the past two seasons haven't exactly been easy to come by.

"Arlington is a hockey town," said Bartlett, who also led the boys soccer team in scoring as

the Spy Ponders captured the Greater Boston League title this fall. "The Greater Boston League is full of big, athletic teams and we don't have as big of a pool of athletes as they do. But it's getting back to where it was."

Growing up, Bartlett remembers attending Arlington High games as a kid and watching the Spy Ponders constantly compete for the GBL crown and a spot in the tournament. He was hoping to help AHS do the same as a member of the team.

"It can get frustrating," he said. "But I know that everyone is trying their hardest."

"Steve is a great kid," said Broderick. "He does a lot of different things on the court that we ask him to do and he does a lot in the offseason, he tries to get better. He's kept a level head because he knows where we're at."

The schedule wasn't friendly to Arlington this year as the Spy Ponders were forced to battle GBL-powers Peabody, Cambridge, Somerville and Waltham to open the campaign.

"Those are the four toughest teams in the league," said Bartlett. "But I saw a lot of positives in those first four games."

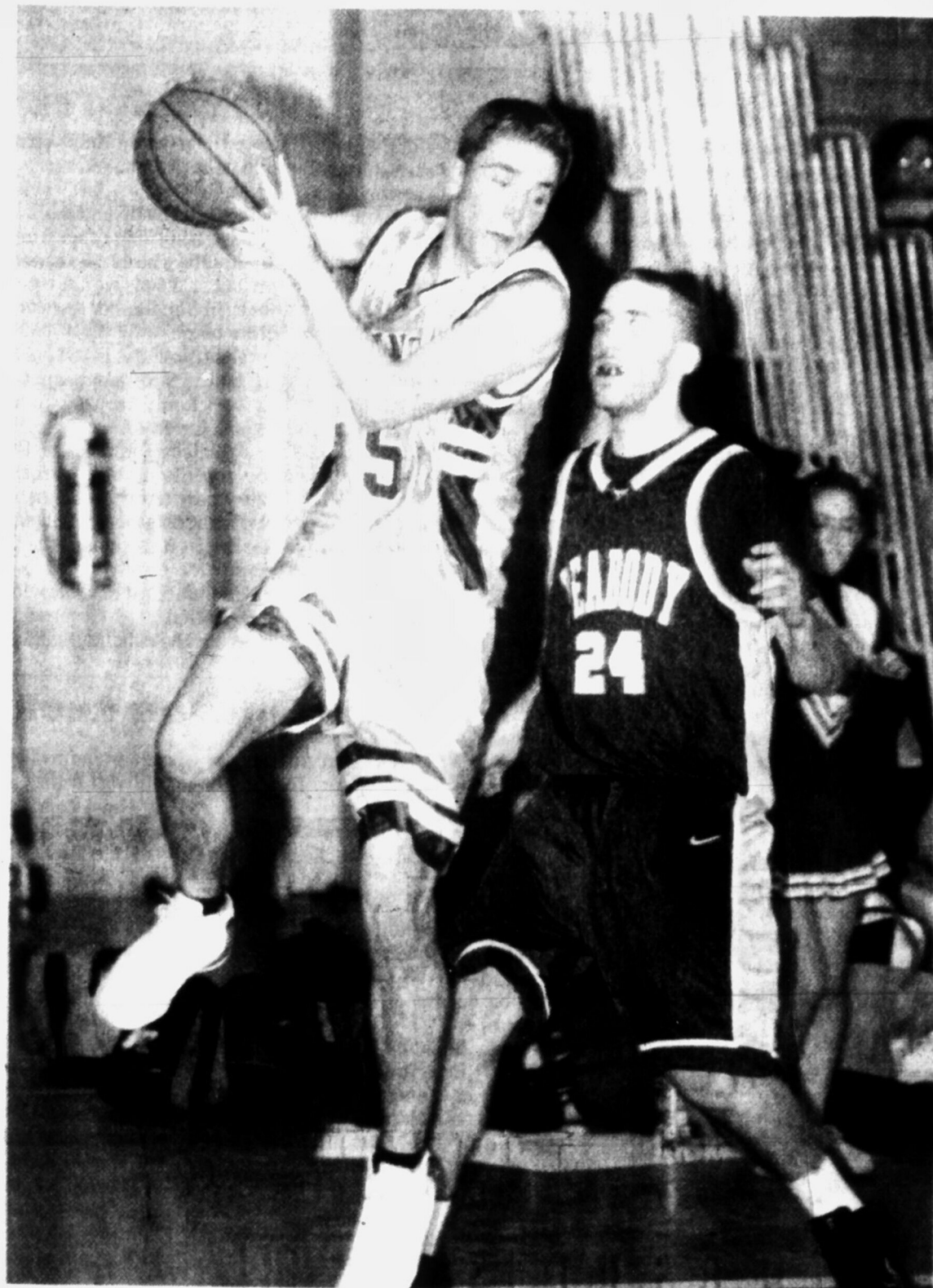
Then came Saugus, Arlington's first non-league opponent last Thursday.

Thanks to a team-high 17 points for Bartlett and plenty of contributions throughout the rest of the lineup, Arlington rolled to a 30-point victory and earned victory No. 1.

"Finally," said senior teammate Sean O'Brien, Bartlett's best friend since the first grade. "We needed that win more than anything. We knew it was going to be tough to start, but we really feel like we can take the next four games."

Arlington won its next one on Tuesday, beating Medford handily, 46-28.

Bartlett did his part once again, scoring 15 points with a



Arlington High senior Steve Bartlett (with ball, driving to the basket against Peabody) has helped the AHS boys basketball team win its last two games.

variety of drives to the baskets, outside shots and fadeaways. "He can hit any kind of a fade-

away shot," said O'Brien, who coaches youth basketball with Bartlett every Saturday morning.

"Once he heats up, you can't do anything about it."

ARLINGTON HIGH BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Boys and girls top Medford

By Doug Hastings
STAFF WRITER

Senior Steve Bartlett scored 16 points and classmate Nicholas Carco added nine as the Arlington High boys basketball team won its second straight game on Tuesday in Medford, 46-28.

"The guys came out and played really well," said Spy Ponder coach Mike Broderick. "We really took it to them."

After leading 20-16 at halftime, AHS yielded only 12 second-half points while scoring 26 of its own.

Senior Sean O'Brien also contributed off the bench with a pair of assists and a clutch three-point play that put the game away late in the second half.

"We're pretty happy about this one," Broderick said. "We executed very well in the second half."

Arlington executed well in both halves of last Thursday's 66-36 rout of visiting Saugus.

Four players reached double figures in points for AHS (24 overall) including Bartlett (17 points), Carco (13), freshman Brian Emerson (12 points, 6 rebounds) and senior Christopher Emerson (10 points, 7 boards).

Arlington played pretty mistake-free early, jumping out to a 10-0 lead, an advantage that expanded to 14 by halftime, 32-18.

The Spy Ponders poured it on in the second half, finishing the final six minutes with a 17-9 burst.

The opening burst was sparked by senior captain C.J. Williams, who dove to the floor twice in the first two minutes of play to win battles for loose balls. The energy spread quickly as Brian Emerson, Bartlett and Connor Bishop all swished short jumpers.

Saugus didn't score its first basket until the 11-minute mark.

The game was never close thanks to fine ball movement
Roundup, Page 11

Track swept by Medford

By Doug Hastings
STAFF WRITER

The Arlington High track teams came out on the short end of recent meets against Medford.

The girls lost a tight 45-40 decision while the boys fell to the Mustangs, 54-32.

The Spy Ponder girls won only two events, but second-place performances in eight events kept the meet close.

Winners for AHS included Jacqueline Murphy in the two mile with a time of 14:51.1 while Annie Fallon led a 1-2-3 sweep in the shot put with a winning distance of 27 feet, 5 3/4 inches.

Finishing behind Fallon was Katie Weber (27-0 3/4) and Lisa Taglieri (25-8).

Also finishing second for Arlington was Meagan Doherty

in both the 50-meter dash (7.9) and the high jump (4 feet, 6 inches), Marika Osterbur in the hurdles (11.5), Samantha Aupperlee in the 300 (50.3), Elizabeth Weber in the 600 (2:00.7), Liz Wheatley in the 1000 (3:34.9) and Lindsay O'Grady in the mile (6:42.5).

Other third-place points were scored by Ellen Willem in the 600 (2:01.6), Nhu-Y Nguyen in the 1000 (3:43.1), Rebecca Eberle in the mile (6:57.9), Allison Mayer in the two mile (16:09.9) and Kristen Leccacorvi in the high jump (4-4).

Nguyen was also second in the 1000 at a freshman/sophomore meet on Dec. 30 at Tufts University in a time of 3:44.3. Katie Weber won the shot put at the event with a distance of

28-6.

Winning events for the boys against Medford was Karen Bouhafs in the mile (5:09.9), Jordan Cooper in the high jump (5-8) and Joe DeVito in the shot put (35-9).

Second-place finishers included Mark Vecchione in the hurdles (9.3), Jim Leary in the dash (6.7), Nathaniel Lim in the 1000 (3:09.7) and Kostya Gorbunov in the mile (5:15.2).

Third-place points were scored by Gooper in the dash (6.9), Kevin Hurley in the 600 (1:40.7), Blake Carpenter in the 1000 (3:10.6), Ben Wheatley in the two mile (11:39.9) and Chris Magni in the shot put (34-11).

Wheatley (two mile) and Graham Fallon (shot put) were each third at the freshman-sophomore meet

Wrestlers fourth at tourney

By Doug Hastings
STAFF WRITER

The Arlington High wrestling team is off to a terrific start.

With seven dual meets under their belt, the Spy Ponders have a 6-1 record and, last Saturday, they added a fine performance at the Pentucket tournament to their resume.

At Pentucket, Arlington

crowned two champions and had six wrestlers place in all on the way to a fourth-place finish.

Champions for Arlington included John Phillips at 189 pounds and Peter Samko at the heavyweight spot.

Greg Shapiro finished second at 145 while Joe Bench was third at 160.

Also placing for the Ponders

was Eric Avokov, fourth at 125, and Damian Kosmidis, sixth at 171.

AHS beat Melrose, Belmont and Watertown in recent competition.

Next up for Arlington is a Thursday home match against Newton South starting at 5 p.m.



It's been a while, but the Arlington High girls hockey team returns to the ice on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. when Waltham visits its Veterans Rink.

The Spy Ponders haven't had it easy this season, facing state powers Boston Latin, Westford Academy and Lincoln-Sudbury in its first three games. Arlington carries a 1-2 mark into the matchup with Waltham, an improved team that recently battled a talented Billerica squad to a 2-2 deadlock.

AC ROUNDUP

AC hockey wins tourney

By Stephen Martellucci
CORRESPONDENT

The Arlington Catholic boys hockey team captured the Ed Burns Holiday Tournament crown last Wednesday night at Veterans Memorial Rink, defeating Reading 3-0 in a physical game that featured 11 penalties.

With the victory, the Cougars improved their record to 4-1 overall.

"We played very, very well," said Cougar coach Dan Shine. "We dominated them the first five minutes of the game and that took them by surprise."

Just 34 seconds into the game, the Cougars set the tone as Frank O'Connor (Charlestown) made it 1-0 scoring off a rebound. Patrick Fidler-

O'Neil (Charlestown) and Ryan Butler (Burlington) both got credit for the assist.

Joe Hurley (Charlestown) made it 2-0 as he also scored off of a rebound late in the first period. O'Connor and Paul Costa (Peabody) each received assists.

After a scoreless second period, the Cougars got another insurance goal with just over four minutes left in the game as Mike Adams (Bedford) scored a power-play goal. Cougar goalie Dave Pinkham registered his first career shutout as the Malden native made 14 saves.

The Arlington Catholic offense mustered 30 shots on the Rocket goal.

"Nolan (Burns) and Tim (Buhay) were outstanding on

defense," stated Shine, about the Charlestown residents. "Dave played extremely well in net."

Arlington Catholic's next contest will be a non-league game on Saturday night as the Cougars visit Duxbury at 6.

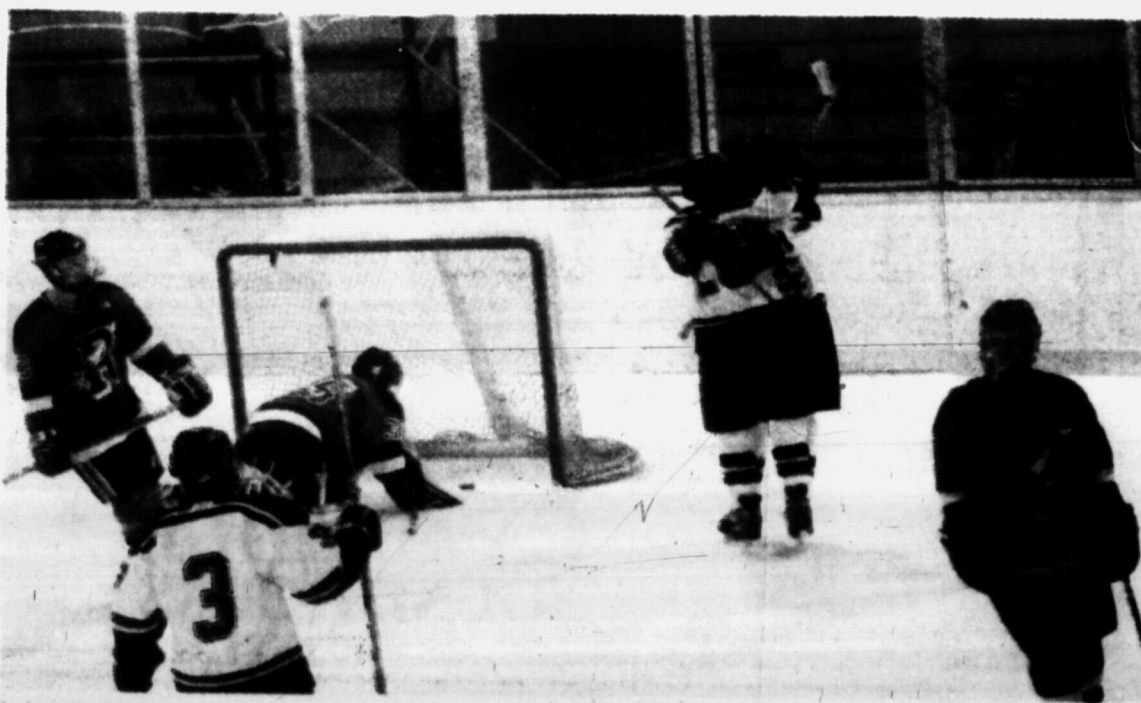
Girls hoop at 6-1

In their final game at the Haverhill Christmas Tournament last Thursday, the Arlington Catholic girls basketball team beat host Haverhill, 69-51.

With the victory, the Cougars improved to 6-1 overall.

"It was a real team effort," said Cougar coach Dave Brady. "Our defense was better."

AC's press defense caused several Haverhill turnovers as
Cougars, Page 11



Arlington Catholic hockey players (in white) react after a goal during the Ed Burns hockey tournament last week in Arlington.

STAFF PHOTO BY KAREN SPARACIO

ARLINGTON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Tot Hockey

The Arlington Boys & Girls Club has scheduled Tot Hockey classes for children ages 4 and 5 years old. The participants will learn the basics of floor hockey through instruction, drills and simple games. This class is offered on Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m., Fridays at 12:30 p.m. or Saturdays at 9 a.m. Spaces are limited on each day. Tot Hockey is a six week program that meets once a week.

For more information call 781-648-1617.

Parent & Tot Drop-in Swim

The Arlington Boys & Girls Club has scheduled parent & tot drop-in swims from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday mornings. Parents must accompany the children in the water. The fee for this swim is \$4 per child.

Aquacize

The Arlington Boys & Girls Club offers Aquacize, aerobics in the pool for adults on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9 to 9:45 a.m. It is also offered on Monday evenings from 7 to 7:45 p.m. and Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 8 p.m. The fee per class is \$6. Monthly passes are available for a discounted rate.

Tot Swim

The Arlington Boys & Girls Club has limited space in swimming lessons for tots. Swimming lessons for this age are scheduled with parent and without parent. The levels are as follows:

For a complete listing of days and times consult our Web page at <http://www.abg-club.org>. If you would like a copy of the winter brochure mailed to you call 781-648-1617.

Annual 3 on 3 tournament another success:

There was a lot of excitement at the Boys & Girls Club gymnasium on Dec. 29 as 11 teams competed in an entertaining 3 on 3 basketball tournament. The 11 teams consisted of 42 Ottoson Middle School Students.

There were two divisions in this Double Elimination Tournament, a 6th grade division and 7th and 8th grade division.

In the championship of the 6th grade division, the "Fluffs" went on to defeat Team Circumference, thus completing an undefeated tourney run.

Adam Zakaria, Rylan Spence, John Lyons, and Ben Adams-Keane all played great throughout the entire tournament. They all hit big shots at different times

throughout the tournament. The defense was their strength as they held several opponents to low scoring games. Playing well for team "Circumference" were Rob Carter, Christopher Hamblin, Trevor Jones, and Alex Wallach-Hanson.

It was a tough loss for team Circumference, as they played well both offensively and defensively, but just couldn't come up with the big stops needed to contain the "Fluffs."

The two other teams that competed in the 6th Grade Division were: the "Airbags"- Yannick Doyle, Trevor Hass, Trevor Jones, and Asa Podolny; and the "Wolverines"- Wesley Fitting, Jorgel Calderon, and Mike Tenters.

In the championship of the 7th and 8th grade division, the Gigantic Roosters went on to defeat the "Hurricanes" by the score of 15-7.

The Gigantic Roosters were a three-man machine. Andrew Buckley, Adam Russo, and John Nichols each used their size and athletic ability to overcome much smaller and quicker teams. The ability to rebound offensively gave them a pretty good advantage heading into each game. Playing well for 2nd place winner was Will Adams-Keane, James Murray, Sean Farrell, and Tyler Gallon. Will Adams-Keane played a pretty big role in getting his team into the Championship match. His desire to compete definitely rubbed off on James,

Sean, and Tyler. Each game the "Hurricanes" played was a close one. Big baskets and key defensive stops made it possible for them to get as far as they did.

The other Five Teams that competed very well in the 7th and 8th grade division were: "the Champs"- Peter Wasson, Conner Allen, Nate Retner, and Sascha Turnheim; "the Blazers"- Joey Simmons, Patrick McDonough, Danny Johnson, and David Largenton; "Fighting Italians"- Matt Foster, Sam Schegan, Robert Rossi, and Domenic Pazzia; the "Momos"- Gerard Bergin, Peter Mattera, Tim Hattis, and Aaron Keyes;

The next "3 on 3" Tournament will be held during February Vacation.

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Babe Ruth clinic
Babe Ruth Vice President Jack Lepore has confirmed the following clinic dates for new players only. The clinic dates are: Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5 and March 12. The clinic cost is \$20 per session and is payable in advance (checks to ABA can be mailed to 39 Cedar Ave, Arlington, MA 02476 c/o Al Ticehurst). The clinic times are 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (kids should arrive a little early). They are held in the high school blue gym. Kids will work on hitting, pitching and fielding.

For questions, please call Al Ticehurst at 781-648-4071 or Jack Lepore at 781-646-8424.
Managers, coaches needed for softball
Managers and coaches are needed for girls 9-12 softball league.

There is a girls softball meeting for new and returning managers and coaches Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. in the meeting room at the Community Safety Building (Police Station) on Mystic Ave.

AAU girls hoop tryout
The North Central Blaze AAU girls basketball club will be holding tryouts for the spring 2005 season on two Saturdays, Jan. 8 and Feb. 5 at the Fitchburg State College Athletic and Recreation Center in Fitchburg.

For more information, contact Mike Davidson at 978-582-0083 or by email at miked010967@aol.com, or Harry Clark by email at sundye@ziplink.net.

Any athlete from any town is eligible.

Players from over 35 communities participated on Blaze teams in 2004.

The Blaze will have teams in the following age divisions: 10-under, 11-under, 12-under, 13-under, 14-under, 15-under, 16-under and 17-under. All new players wishing to participate

on a Blaze team must attend one or both tryout dates.

An athlete's AAU age is determined by that athlete's age on Jan. 1, 2005. In other words, an athlete who is 14-years-old on Jan. 1, 2005, would try out for the 14-and-under team or an older team.

The tryout fee is \$25 paid at the time of tryouts either in cash or by check payable to the "North Central Blaze."

Athletes should pre-register for tryouts at our website, www.northcentralblaze.com. Registration is also allowed at the door on the day of the tryouts.

The website also provides information about the program, its costs, the coaching staff and

the specific tryout time for each age division.

Little league Web site
Arlington Little League's new web site is up and running. It has contact numbers and notes about registrations, clinics and other important dates. It is still Arlingtonlittleleague.com. Also, registration forms for Little League will be available at the Rec Center, and as a download from the web site.

Henry's Baseball Club
Henry's Baseball Club is currently seeking players ages 17 to 40. Coaches, helpers and volunteers for its competitive baseball league that also works out during the winter months indoors.

Games and workouts are

held Sundays at 11 a.m. at locations up and down Rt. 128.

Call 781-891-0621 for more information.

Baseball hitting instruction

Burlington native and current member of the Boston Red Sox organization Sean McGowan is offering private and group hitting instruction at Hitter's Alley in Woburn. McGowan, who has played professional baseball since 1999, was a member of the Portland SeaDogs this past season, the AA affiliate of the Red Sox. He reached the AAA level in the San Francisco Giants organization.

For more information contact McGowan at 781-929-7507 or e-mail: bigstixsm@cs.com.

ARLINGTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Upcoming Programs and Activities
Registration is now open for the following activities.

Visit our Web site at <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us>

Little Picassos

Preschool arts & crafts classes for children ages 2-4. Program to take place downstairs in Gibbs Gym and is offered on Thursdays from 10:15 to 11 a.m.

Session A1: Jan. 6 - Feb. 10. Fee is \$50 per session.

Program taught by Donna Sullivan.

Preschool Gym

Games, music and movement for youngsters ages 3 and 4 at the Gibbs gym.

The fee for this program is \$50 for a 6-week session. Programs run on Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m.

Session A1: Jan. 6 - Feb. 10.

Program taught by Donna Sullivan.

Krafty Krafts

Individual day of craft making target-

ing upcoming holiday season with Donna Sullivan at the Gibbs Lower Gym. The fee for this program is \$15/session or \$40/3 sessions.

Program is offered on Thursday, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, and March 10 from 4 to 4:45 p.m.

Sports & Games

Introduction into skills and game concepts for soccer, baseball, basketball, and various other sports. Program is held at the Gibbs Gym on Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. The fee is \$50.

Session A1: Jan. 6 - Feb. 3.

Program taught by Donna Sullivan.

Karate for Ages 5 and Up

Program is held for 8 week sessions on Mondays at Gibbs Gym.

Session A1: Jan. 31 through March 28.

Ages 5 and 6 meet from 3 to 3:45 p.m., ages 7 and 8 meet from 4 to 5 p.m., and ages 10 and up meet from 5 to 5:45 p.m.

Yoga for Adults

For ages 16 and up. Program meets Mondays at Gibbs Gym from 6:45 to 8 p.m.

Session A1 begins Jan. 17 and runs through March 21. Program is \$75 per session.

Cardio Kickboxing

For ages 16 and up. Program meets on Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. at Gibbs Gym. Program cost is \$80 for an 8 week session. Session dates run from Jan. 19 to March 9.

Adult Ice Skating Lessons

Lessons are for ages 18 and up from 1 to 1:50 p.m. at Arlington Skating Rink.

Session A1: Wednesdays, Jan. 5-Feb. 2, B1: Mondays, Jan. 24-Feb. 28, and C1: Wednesdays, Feb. 9-March 16. Session fee is \$50.

If you have any questions about these or other programs or special events offered through Arlington Recreation, call us at 781-316-3880.

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